

## Message Text

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62

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

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R 201742Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4199

INFO COMICEDEFOR

S E C R E T REYKJAVIK 1541

EXDIS

DEPARTMENT PASS SECDEF AND CINCLANT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR MARR IC NATO

SUBJECT: IDF RETENTION NEGOTIATIONS: TABLE THREE

REF: A) REYKJAVIK 1539: B) REYKJAVIK 1470

1. REFTEL (A) REPEATS A SUGGESTED NEW "TABLE THREE" BREAKDOWN PREPARED BY COMICEDEFOR. THIS EMBASSY CONCURS WITH COMICEDEFOR'S PROPOSAL WHICH IS CONSISTENT WITH THE STATED ASSUMPTION THAT ICELAND DOES NOT WANT TO IMPAIR THE ACTUAL DEFENSE OF ICELAND. THIS ASSUMPTION WAS VALID FOR A LONG TIME AND WAS OFTEN STATED TO US, ALBEIT IN PRIVATE, BY THE FONMIN AND OTHER RESPONSIBLE GOI OFFICIALS. IN THE PAST FEW WEEKS, HOWEVER, THERE SEEMS TO BE A SHIFT IN THINKING AMONG RESPONSIBLE ICELANDERS THAT THE WAY TO SAVE THE BASE IS TO TOLERATE AS PERMANENTLY STATIONED IN ICELAND ONLY A SURVEILLANCE STATION (EVENTUALLY TO BE MANNED SOLELY BY CIVILIANS) WITH JUST ENOUGH EXTRA MILITARY MANPOWER TO SAFEGUARD THE SURVEILLANCE ACTIVITIES. THIS SHIFT WAS HINTED AT BY THE FONMIN IN HIS DEC 4 CONVERSATION WITH ME (REPORTED IN REFTEL (B) PARA 4). THE SHIFT IN THINKING MAY BE TAKING PLACE NOT ONLY AS A DEVICE TO KEEP THE PROGRESSIVE PARTY FROM SPLITTING OVER THE IDF ISSUE (PREVIOUSLY REPORTED) BUT ALSO TO ENSURE SDP SUPPORT FOR THE IDF RETENTION (IN-SHORE PATROL AND SURVEILLANCE STATION CONCEPT BEING THE CORNERSTONES OF THE SDP PROPOSAL). THERE ARE RUMORS THAT THREE OF THE SIX SDP ALTHING MEMBERS MAY DEFECT FROM  
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THE PRO-IDF STANCE IF THE US-GOI SETTLEMENT DOES NOT ACCOMMODATE SOME OF THEIR POSITION. POLITICAL PARTY MANEUVERING IS INVOLVED.

2. REFTEL (A) MAXIMIZES MILITARY MANPOWER IN THE DIRECTION OF

DIRECT DEFENSE OF ICELAND. IN ORDER TO GIVE US FLEXIBILITY IN TACTICS I HAVE REQUESTED COMICEDEFOR TO PREPARE ANOTHER VERSION OF "TABLE THREE" WHICH MAXIMIZES MANPOWER IN THE DETECTION AND SURVEILLANCE ACTIVITIES SHOWING ALSO THAT FOR A RELATIVELY ADDITIONAL SMALL NUMBER OF MILITARY MANPOWER, IDF IS PROVIDING DIRECT DEFENSE AS WELL. WE CAN THEN EVALUATE WHICH TABLE IS MORE TO OUR ADVANTAGE WHEN THE THIRD ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS TAKES PLACE OR IF THE SITUATION BECOMES CLEARER BEFORE THAT TIME.

3. THIS MESSAGE COORDINATED WITH COMICEDEFOR. IRVING

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED ABOVE ADDEES.

SECRET

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY BASES, NEGOTIATIONS  
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**Draft Date:** 20 DEC 1973  
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